N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ATENT APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/686,380 ASSIGNEE St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V. TITLE "Vascular Sealing Device With Locking Hub" TRANSMITTAL LETTER AND CERTIFICATE OF MAILING To: Mail Stop DD From: L. Grant Foster Commissioner for Patents HOLLAND & HART LLP 555 - 17th Street, Suite 3200 P.O. Box 1450 P.O. Box 8749 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Denver, Colorado 80201 Telephone: (801) 595-7830 Facsimile: (801) 364-9124 Enclosed are the items listed below submitted regarding the matter identified above: Transmittal Letter with Certificate of Mailing included 1. 2. PTO Return Postcard Receipt Information Disclosure Statement 3. 4. Form PTO-1449 (2 Sheets) 5. Copy of Cited References Deposit Account Authorization - The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any applicable fees to Deposit Account No. 08-2623. DETEMBER 2003 Date: 19 **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING** I hereby certify the items listed above as enclosed are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as either first class mail or Express Mail, if the blank for Express Mail No. is completed below, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below indicated date. Express Mail No.

Date:	14	December	2003	Signature:	<u>Kuthu</u>	CUSC	
Name: Kathy Case							

10/686,380	U.S. PATENT APPLICATION SERIAL
	FILING DATE
	INVENTOR
St. Jude Medical Puerto Rico B.V.	ASSIGNEE
Unknown	EXAMINER
Unknown	ART UNIT
47563.0004	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO
"Vascular Sealing Device With Locking Hub"	TITLE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To: Mail Stop DD

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: L. Grant Foster

HOLLAND & HART LLP

555 - 17th Street, Suite 3200

P.O. Box 8749

Denver, Colorado 80201 Telephone: (801) 595-7830 Facsimile: (801) 364-9124

The citations listed on attached PTO Form 1449 may be material to the examination of the subject application. Applicant submits copies of these references in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99. The Examiner is requested to review and make these references of record in the above-referenced application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. Further, this submission does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art," Applicant reserves the right to present the relevant facts and law regarding such documents. Applicant reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

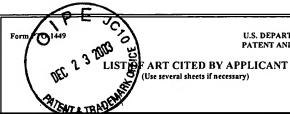
Applicant respectfully requests expeditious examination and a favorable action on the merits.

Date: 19 DECEMBER 2003

. Grant Foster

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. No. 33,236



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47563.0004

SERIAL NO. 10/686,380

APPLICANT: Theresa Ditter

FILING DATE: 47563.0004

GROUP:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Number Date Filing Date *Examiner Name Class Subclass If Appropriate Initial 6,179,863 01-30-2001 606/215 04-19-1999 AA Kensey, Kenneth et al. 604/168 06-25-1998 6,090,130 07-18-2000 AB Nash, John E. et al. 606/213 AC 6,045,569 04-04-2000 Kensey, Kenneth 606/213 01-29-1998 ΑD 6,132,439 10-17-2000 Kontos, Stavros 606/139 606/148 02-17-1999 6,197,042 03-06-2001 Ginn, Richard S. et al. 606/213 606/139 01-05-2000 ΑE ΑF 6,086,607 07-11-2000 Cragg, Andrew H. et al. 606/213 604/265 02-10-1999 09-22-1998 AG 5,810,884 Kim, Ducksoo 606/213 606/215 05-19-1997 AH 5,935,147 08-10-1999 Kensey, Kenneth et al. 606/213 606/232 12-17-1997 ΑI 5,830,130 11-03-1998 Janzen, Ernst et al. 606/213 604/15 10-05-1994 5,861,004 01-19-1999 Kensey, Kenneth et al. 606/213 08-29-1997 5,662,681 09-02-1997 Nash, John E. 606/213 604/285 04-23-1996 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Country Document Date Class Subclass Translation Number No Yes ΑL ΑN ΑO OTHER PRIOR ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) AR

AS AT

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Form PTU-144	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 47563,0004	SERIAL NO. 10/686,380	
2 DIST OF ART CITED BY A	D BY APPLICANT	APPLICANT: Theresa Ditter		
The several sneets it necess		FILING DATE: 15 October 2003	GROUP:	

SVI & TW U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Filing Date If Appropriate *Examiner Name Class Subclass Document Date Initial Number 128/887 606/213 05-12-1995 5,700,277 12-23-1997 Nash, John 03-17-1998 606/148 606/213 03-07-1996 AB 5,728,114 Evans, Douglas et al. AC AD ΑE \mathbf{AF} AĢ AH ΑI ΑJ AK FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Number Subclass Translation Date Country Yes No AL AM AN A0 AP OTHER PRIOR ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) AR AS ΑT EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.